

Special Meeting.

July 22nd, 1904.

A special meeting of the Board of Public Works was held at the Fidelity Building, Baltimore, this date in pursuance to a call of Governor Warfield.

Present: Governor Warfield, Comptroller Atkinson and Treasurer Vandiver.

Governor Warfield submitted the following communication, to-wit:

Baltimore, July 20th, 1904.

His Excellency, Edwin Warfield, Governor,

Dear Sir:- The Western Maryland Railroad, as you know, is now engaged in building a connecting line between Cherry Run and City of Cumberland in accordance with the terms of the Act of Assembly of 1902 the line as indicated in the Act of 1904 crossing the Chesapeake and Ohio Canal at several places and requiring as to occupied portions of the Canal lands. The ownership of the State's interest in the Canal would be a possible aid to us in acquiring the necessary rights of way over and along the Canal. Public interests as well as those of our Company would, in this view, be promoted by the sale of the State's interest in the Canal to this Company. The authority to sell the interest of the State is vested in the Board of Public Works, and appears to be full and complete, whenever in the judgment of the Board the public interests requires such action.

Since the publication by the Board (in 1895 and in 1899) of invitations for proposals for purchase of the State's interest, from which no sale resulted, the value of those interests has been reduced, not only by accumulation of interest on superior liens but by the voluntary subordination of the liens of the State to claims of considerable amounts.

Believing, however, that the possible usefulness of the State's interest to us at this juncture affords to the State an opportunity for sale which would not otherwise exist and that a reasonable offer from this Company will commend itself to your Board, we beg to present this suggestion and to request its early consideration by the Board of Public Works.

I am,

Very respectfully,

F. S. Landstreet, V. P.

Western Maryland R. R. Co.

On motion of Mr. Vandiver, seconded by Mr. Atkinson, it was ordered that the consideration of said letter be postponed until August 4th, 1904, at 12 o'clock M at a meeting at Annapolis.

The Board then adjourned to meet in Annapolis the date and hour above set forth.

G. T. Atkinson, Secretary pro tem.

Oswald Tilghman

